

I am very concerned about Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force its stations to show the anti-Kerry documentary days before the election.

I thought that use of the public airwaves free of charge brought with it a legal obligation to serve the public interest. Airing a clearly partisan program right before a major hotly contested presidential election, without equal time for opposing viewpoints, is not in the public interest. Moreover, the fact that this is one corporation forcing all of its local affiliates to broadcast the show demonstrates the stranglehold that media consolidation has on the television broadcast media.

When large companies control our airwaves, we do not get what is in the best interest of the public and our beloved democracy. Instead, we get only what is in the best interest of the companies. We want and need to see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

This one-sided move by Sinclair demonstrates why we must strengthen media ownership rules, rather than weaken them.

Thank you.